

50¢ 58  
SEPT  
02199

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

©1981 MARVEL COMICS GROUP



# PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

HERE'S THE WEB-SWINGER YOU DEMANDED!  
FIGHTING! JOKING! DEFYING DEATH IN A  
SAVAGE ROOFTOP BATTLE!



## RAVAGED BY THE RINGER!



While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter gained the arachnid's powers... and in effect, became a human spider...

Stan Lee  
Presents:

# THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!

## RING OUT THE OLD, RING IN THE NEW!

I CAN'T BELIEVE  
THAT IT'S THE  
BEGINNING OF A NEW  
SEMESTER ALREADY!  
I'VE ACTUALLY MADE  
IT THROUGH A WHOLE  
TERM, AS A GRAD  
AND A TEACHING  
ASSISTANT!

SOMEHOW, I'VE  
SURVIVED THAT  
WHILE STILL PULLING  
IN A REASONABLE  
LIVING AS A FREE-  
LANCE PHOTOGRAPHER  
AND PLAYING SPIDER-  
MAN ON THE SIDE!

I MUST BE OUT  
OF MY MIND TO TRY  
LIVING FOUR LIVES  
AT ONCE! IT'S REALLY  
BEEN A HECKUVA  
STRAIN, BUT SOMEHOW  
I SEEM TO BE  
MAKING IT!

WRITER: ROGER STERN  
PENCILER: JOHN BYRNE  
INKER: VINCE COLLETTA  
LETTERER: JEAN SIMEX  
COLORIST: BEN SEAN  
EDITOR: TOM DE FALCO  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:  
JIM SHOOTER

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™ Vol. 1, No. 86, September, 1961. (U.S.P.S. 559-250) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 575 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Controlled Circulation postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing office. Published monthly. Copyright © 1961 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 50¢ per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate \$6.00 for 12 issues. Canada, \$7.00. Foreign, \$8.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.





OH, GREAT! MY WATCH HAS STOPPED! I DON'T KNOW IF I'M LATE OR NOT!

WHOA! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS SIGNALING DANGER! WHAT COULD POSSIBLY--?

UH-OH! A LITTLE BURST OF THE OL' SPIDER-SPEED WILL PREVENT A NASTY IMPACT!



HEADS UP, FELLA! T.A. AT 12 O'CLOCK!

LOOK OUT!

WE'RE GOING TO...  
...HUH?!



WAY TO GO, PARKER! IF I HADN'T REACTED SO QUICKLY, I COULD HAVE SPARED JOE COLLEGE A FALL!

SORRY, FELLA. ARE YOU OKAY?

OH, YEAH. I'M FINE. NEVER BETTER.

I FALL ON MY FACE... MY WATCH IS BROKEN... AND I'M PROBABLY LATE FOR A CLASS I DIDN'T WANT IN THE FIRST PLACE.



I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. YOU'RE STUCK WITH A LOSER OF A CLASS, EH?

THE WORST! I SIGNED UP FOR A COMPUTER COURSE FOR MY MINOR, BUT THE FOOLS AT REGISTRATION FOULED UP MY FORMS--SO I GOT STUCK WITH CHEM-101!

IN THAT CASE, YOU CAN RELAX--YOU'RE NOT LATE FOR CLASS. I'M HEADED THERE MYSELF! C'MON!



THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME FOUL-UP. YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A FRESHMAN. HOW'D THEY STICK YOU WITH A FIRST YEAR COURSE?

EASY... I AM A FRESHMAN! DON'T LET THE YEARS FOOL YOU-- MY FIRST COLLEGE CAREER WAS INTERRUPTED BY A HITCH IN THE ARMY!

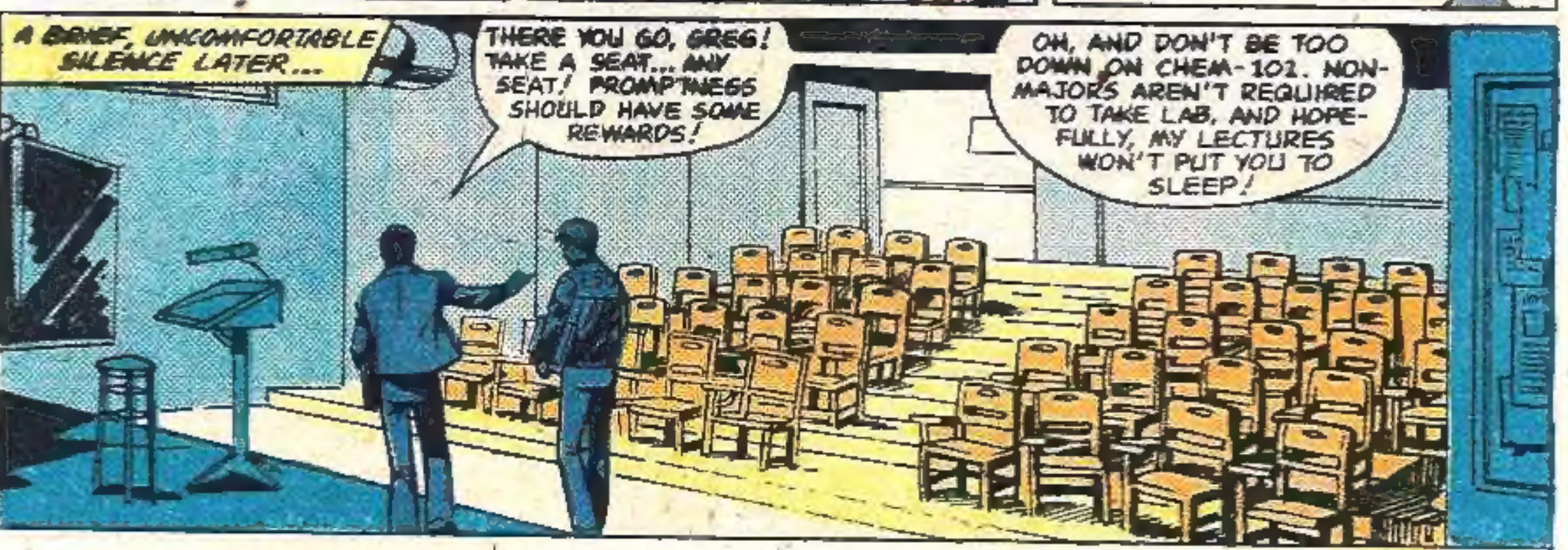
BY THE WAY, I'M GREG SALINGER!

I'M PETER PARKER.

YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A FRESHMAN EITHER!

I'M NOT... I'M THE TEACHER!

OH.



A BRIEF, UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE LATER...

THERE YOU GO, GREG! TAKE A SEAT... MY SEAT! PROMPTNESS SHOULD HAVE SOME REWARDS!

OH, AND DON'T BE TOO DOWN ON CHEM-101. NON-MAJORS AREN'T REQUIRED TO TAKE LAB, AND HOPEFULLY, MY LECTURES WON'T PUT YOU TO SLEEP!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON A SMALL SIDE STREET IN BROOKLYN, TWO OF NEW YORK'S FINEST ARE OCCUPIED WITH A LESS THAN EXCITING ASSIGNMENT...



GEEZ, HOWIE, I'D RATHER PLAY METER-MAID THAN PULL GUARD DUTY!

THIS IS MORE MONOTONOUS THAN A STAKE-OUT!

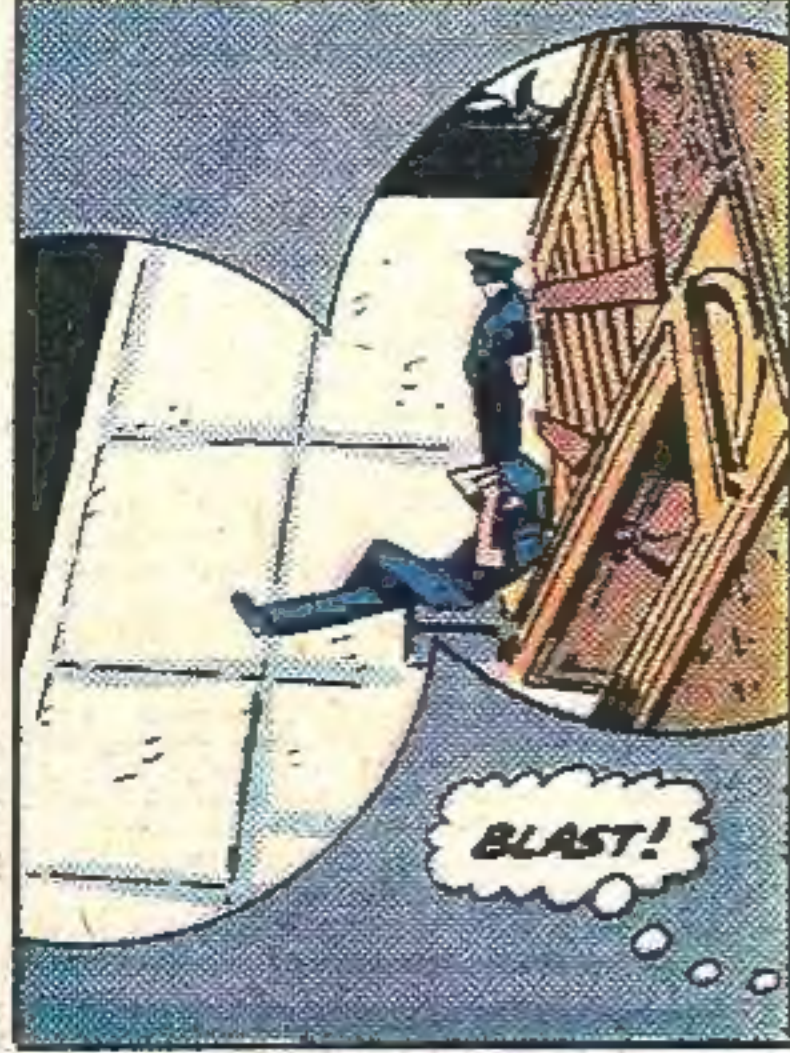


AW, CHEER UP, FRANK! IT'S NOT SO BAD! AND 'SIDES, YOU KNOW WE CAN'T LEAVE THIS PLACE UNGUARDED UNTIL THE D.A.'S OFFICE DECIDES WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT!

AFTER ALL, THIS JOINT WAS THE TINKERER'S WORKSHOP BEFORE SPIDER-MAN BUSTED IT UP! \* THERE'S PROBABLY ENOUGH ARMAMENT INSIDE TO OUTFIT A SMALL ARMY--

\*SEE ISSUE #53--TOM

"--AN' YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MUGS WOULD LIKE TO GET THEIR HANDS ON WHAT WE'RE NURSE-MAIDIN'."



BLAST!

THE NEW GEAR THAT THE TINKERER WAS BUILDING FOR ME IS LOCKED UP TIGHTER THAN A DRUM!

I HAVE TO GET IT-- BUT HOW?



WAIT A MINUTE! THE COPS ARE GUARDING THE DOORS... BUT WHAT ABOUT THE ROOF?!

A HALF-HOUR LATER, AFTER FOLLOWING A WINDING CIRCUITOUS ROUTE OVER THE ROOF-TOPS...



PHEW! I THOUGHT I'D NEVER MAKE IT! I MUST BE CRAZY, TRYING A STUNT LIKE THIS IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, BUT THERE'S TOO MUCH RIDING ON THIS DEAL.

AH, I THOUGHT I REMEMBERED AN AIR SHAFT IN THIS PLACE! I'LL BET IT LEADS RIGHT DOWN TO THE TINKERER'S LAB!

THAT'S A GOOD 75-FOOT DROP, AT LEAST! BUT FORTUNATELY, I HAVE SOMETHING ON ME WHICH SHOULD MAKE MY DESCENT A LITTLE EASIER!



FROM AN INNER POCKET, THE STRANGER PRODUCES A SIMPLE METAL RING--



GLING

--WHICH, AT THE FLICK OF HIS WRIST, SEEMINGLY GROWS ANOTHER LINK...



GLING

...AND THEN ANOTHER, AND ANOTHER...



GLING

GLING





HEY, DID YOU HEAR THAT?

HEAR WHAT, FRANK?

I DUNNO... SOME SORT OF RINGING NOISE, LIKE BELLS OR CHIMES!

IT MUST'VE BEEN YOUR IMAGINATION! THERE'S NOT A BELL TOWER WITHIN BLOCKS OF THIS PLACE! AND WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE?



I HOPE THERE ARE ENOUGH LINKS TO GET TO THE BOTTOM. I NEVER EXPECTED TO USE MY INTER-LOCKING RINGS IN QUITE THIS FASHION!



JUST A FEW MORE FEET--!



MADE IT!

THUNK

IF IT'S THIS EASY TO BREAK IN, NO WONDER SPIDER-MAN WAS ABLE TO STOP THE TINKERER!



WHAT A MESS! IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY STARTED TO CLEAN UP AFTER A SMALL WAR... AND THEN GAVE UP IN DISGUST.

HEY! IF THE CODE-MARKING ON THAT CRATE IS CORRECT--!



IT IS! MY NEW OUTFIT... ALL CHARGED UP AND READY TO GO!



I'LL SAY THIS FOR THE TINKERER-- HE DID GOOD WORK! IT FITS LIKE A GLOVE, AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT MEETS ALL THE SPECS I GAVE HIM.

BUT WILL IT WORK?



IT WORKS! MY PARTICULATE-MATTER CONDENSERS ARE FORMING RINGS RIGHT OUT OF THE SOOT AND SMOG IN THE AIR!

AS LONG AS I STICK AROUND CITIES, I'LL NEVER RUN OUT OF RINGS AGAIN!

THE RINGER\* IS BACK IN ACTION!

\*REMEMBER HIM FROM DEFENDERS # 51?-- TOM.

AW, WHO AM I KIDDING? I'M NOT CUT OUT FOR A LIFE OF CRIME! THE ONLY REASON I HAD THIS NEW SUIT BUILT WAS SO I COULD PEDDLE IT TO MY BUSINESS CONTACTS!

AND NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, MAYBE THERE'S MORE STUFF HERE THAT I COULD SELL!

I WONDER WHAT'S IN THIS CRATE?

JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE NOWADAYS, I'M SELLING OUT!

BUT THEN...

**THOOM**

HUH?!

GET AWAY FROM THAT CRATE!!

GOOD GRIEF! THAT GUY JUST RIPPED THROUGH SOLID CONCRETE!

BUT I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN PUNCH THROUGH A WALL LIKE THAT!

WHAT THE DEVIL?!

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, PAL--





THAT'S QUITE A WEAPONS SYSTEM YOU HAVE! BUT I'M AFRAID IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THOSE CONSTRICTING RINGS SHOULD'VE CRUSHED HIM LIKE AN EGGSHELL! THIS GUY MUST HAVE A HIDE LIKE A BATTLESHIP!



THESE RINGS ARE VERY INTERESTING! CONDENSED PARTICULATE MATTER, AREN'T THEY? AND WITH A TENSILE STRENGTH APPROACHING THAT OF STEEL!

YES, MOST INGENIOUS! I DARE SAY THAT ANYONE ELSE WOULD BE QUITE HELPLESS!

**KROOON**



NO! GET BACK... KEEP AWAY!



YOU POOR, PATHETIC SOUL! YOU ATTACK, WHEN YOU SHOULD RETREAT!

**KRAK**



YOU ALLOW FEAR TO CLOUD YOUR REASON, AND SO YOU ACT OUT OF PANIC!

YOURS ARE THE ERRORS OF INEXPERIENCE. I MADE MANY OF THE SAME MISTAKES ONCE... BUT I WAS LUCKY. I LEARNED FROM THEM.





I HAVE RISEN FROM MY HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, FORGING A CAREER WHICH WILL YET BRING ME THE POWER AND RICHES THAT ARE RIGHTFULLY MINE!

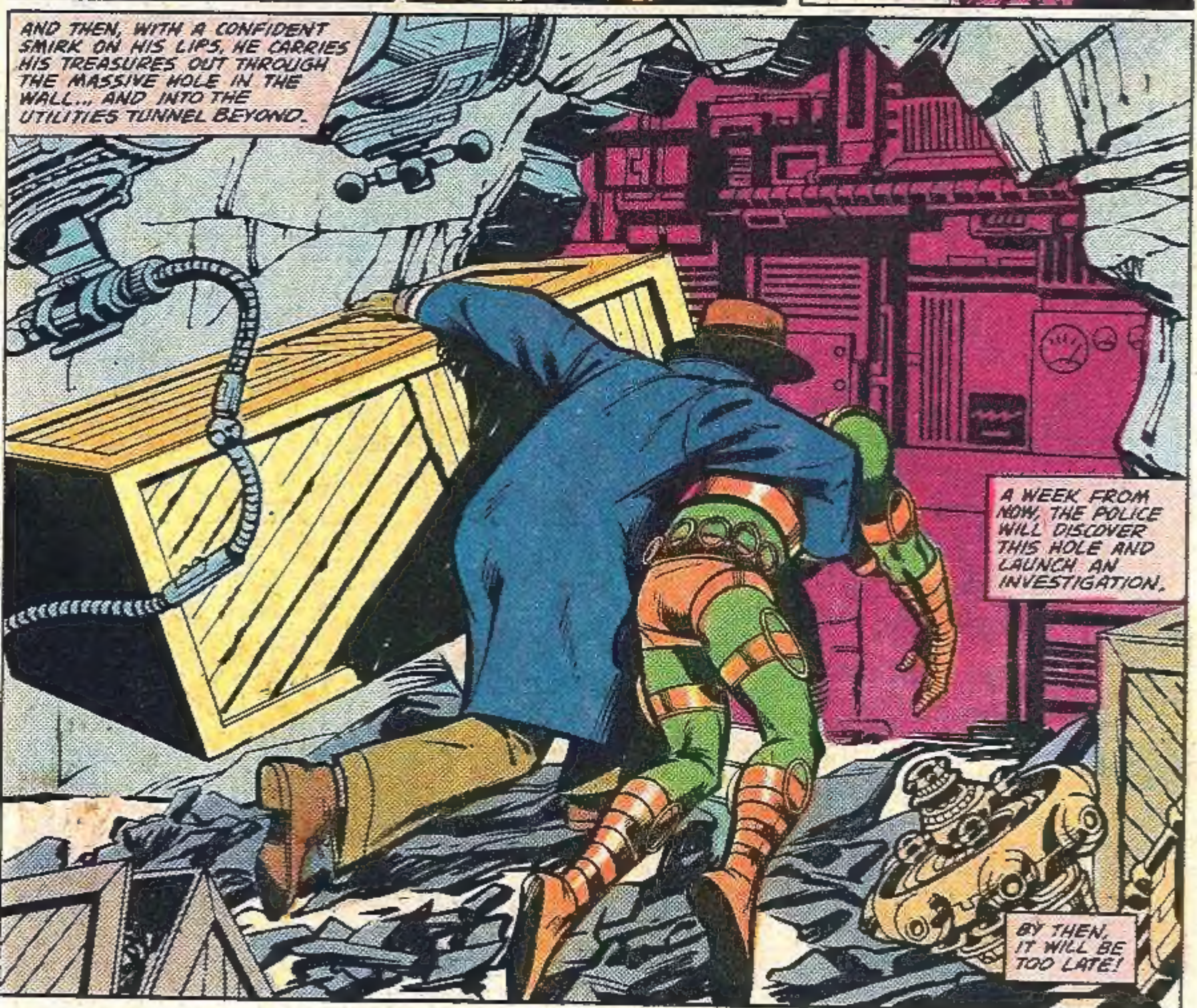
NO LONGER WILL I WORK FOR LESSER MEN! WITHIN A MONTH MY OLD ENEMIES WILL LIE IN DEFEAT!



— AND YOU, MY LITTLE FRIEND, WILL BE A USEFUL TOOL IN INSURING THOSE DEFEATS!



EFFORTLESSLY, THE SHADOWY FIGURE SINKS HIS FINGERS INTO THE SIDE OF THE BIG CRATE, HEFTING IT AS EASILY AS HE LIFTS THE LIMP FORM OF THE RINGER!

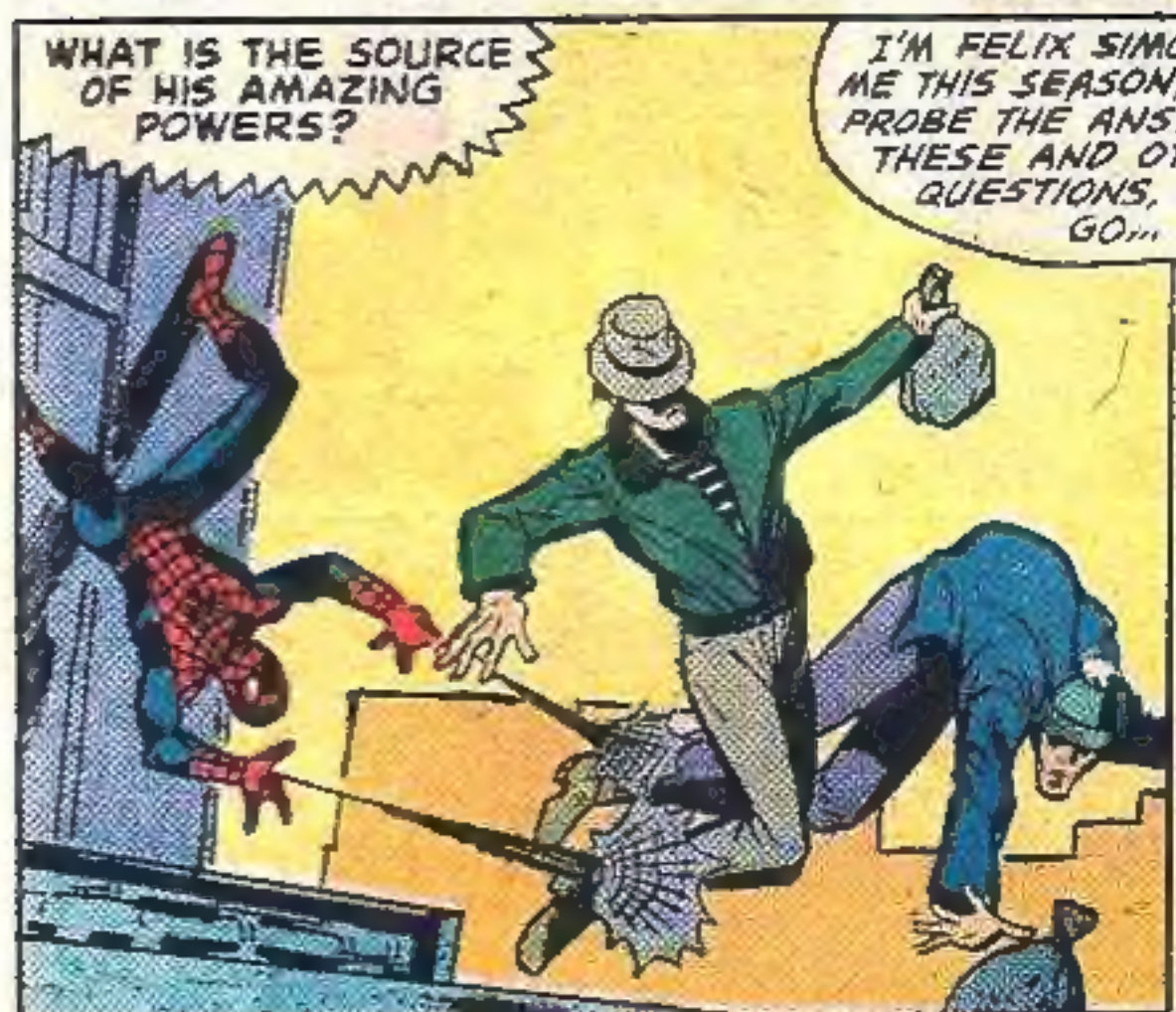


AND THEN, WITH A CONFIDENT SMIRK ON HIS LIPS, HE CARRIES HIS TREASURES OUT THROUGH THE MASSIVE HOLE IN THE WALL... AND INTO THE UTILITIES TUNNEL BEYOND.

A WEEK FROM NOW, THE POLICE WILL DISCOVER THIS HOLE AND LAUNCH AN INVESTIGATION.

BY THEN, IT WILL BE TOO LATE!









ALL THAT STUFF YOU BROUGHT UP ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT FROM ALCHEMY... AND OLD ROGER BACON, EXPERIMENTING IN HIS MONK'S CELL...

...WELL, IT WAS SHEER POETRY!

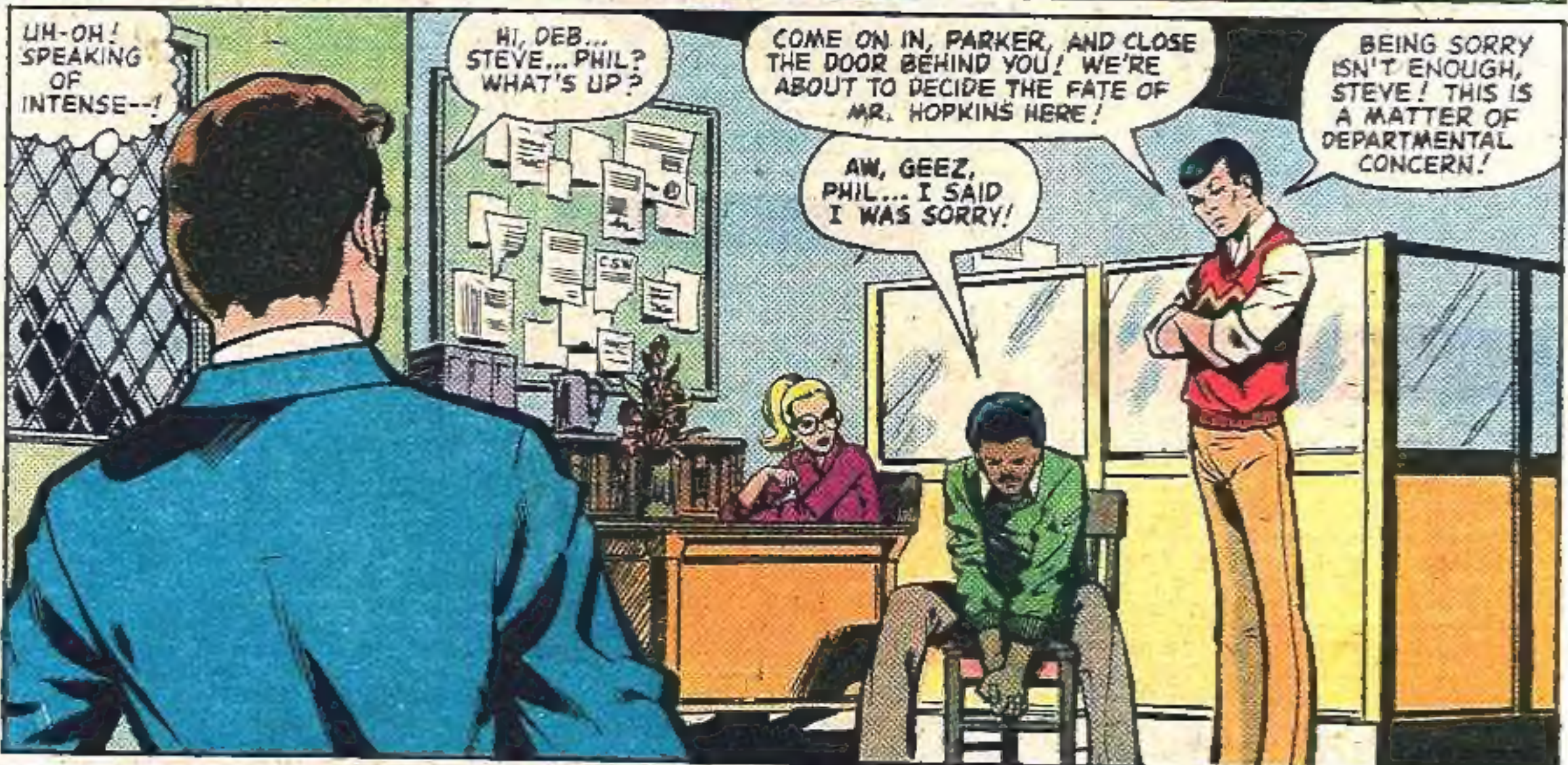
IF YOU THOUGHT THAT WAS SOMETHING, WAIT UNTIL WE GET INTO THE LIVES OF JOSEPH PRIESTLY AND HENRY CAVENDISH!

WELL, SEE YOU IN CLASS!

COUNT ON IT!



WHAT A CHARACTER! HE SEEMS LIKE A NICE GUY, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE WHO WAS SO INTENSE!



UH-OH! SPEAKING OF INTENSE--!

HI, DEB... STEVE... PHIL? WHAT'S UP?

COME ON IN, PARKER, AND CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU! WE'RE ABOUT TO DECIDE THE FATE OF MR. HOPKINS HERE!

BEING SORRY ISN'T ENOUGH, STEVE! THIS IS A MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL CONCERN!

AW, GEEZ, PHIL... I SAID I WAS SORRY!



YOU STEPPED FAR BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF HARMLESS PRACTICAL JOKES, AND CAUSED A LOT OF EMBARRASSMENT FOR A FELLOW TEACHING ASSISTANT!

DR. SLOAN, WILL YOU PLEASE ESCORT THE VICTIM FORWARD?

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MY DEAR! DON'T WORRY.



HERE ARE THE FORMAL CHARGES, PHILIP!

I HOPE THEY THROW THE BOOK AT YOU, STEVE! ACADEMIC PROBATION'S TOO GOOD FOR YOU!

I'M SURE THAT WE'LL FIND A SUITABLE PUNISHMENT, DEB!



STEVE HOPKINS: "IT'S HARDY THAT IN THE FINAL DAYS OF LAST SEMESTER YOU DID WILLFULLY YANK A WIG FROM THE HEAD OF ONE MARY KANE--REMOVING HER RECENTLY CUT HAIR AND CAUSING HER PUBLIC HUMILIATION."

THERE'S SOMETHING OLD ABOUT THIS! PHIL IS ACTING LIKE THE HIGH AND MIGHTY -- BUT, AS I RECALL HE WAS IN ON STEVE'S PRACTICAL JOKE!

WELL...YEAH, I DID. BUT HOW WAS I TO KNOW SHE WAS WEARING A WIG?

\* LAST ISSUE -- TOM

CONGRATULATIONS! WE HAVE ONLY ONE RE-MAINING WIG IN THIS CASE DR. SLOAN...THIS IS IN YOUR HANDS!

--HONEST!

WHUUUN?

**SPLOOOT**

HA-HAH! YOUR PLAN WORKED, DOC! HE FELL FOR IT TOTALLY!

THIS WAS DR. SLOAN'S IDEA? BEAUTIFUL!

DON'T BE SO SURPRISED PARKER! AS SANTAYANA WROTE, "THE OLD MAN WHO WILL NOT LAUGH IS A FOOL!"

YEAH...YEAH...YEAH... YOU'RE SURE FOOLED ME!

AND NOW THAT COURT IS ADJOURNED, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT THE UNVEILING OF THE SENSATIONAL NEW MARY KANE!

TA-DAN! I'D LIKE TO THANK NATURE FOR BESSING ME WITH FAST-DRAWING HAIR AND MY HAIRDRESSER FOR MAKING THIS ALL POSSIBLE!

ISN'T SHE GREAT? FOLK! YOU LOVE HER EVEN MORE AS A BRUNETTE THAN YOU DO AS A BLONDE! YOW-SAN!



IF YOU'LL ALL CALM DOWN I'LL PROVE THIS IS WHERE I SHOULD SAY A FEW WORDS!

I HAVE A TRADITION OF ADDRESSING MY ASSISTANTS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH TERM... AND I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I'M VERY PROUD OF YOU ALL. YOUR WORK HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY AND YOUR GRADE POINT AVERAGES ARE VERY GOOD!

SO, I THOUGHT WE'D HAVE A LITTLE CELEBRATION ON ME!

DOC, YOU'RE ONE OF THE GOOD ONES!

FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MINUTES THE ROOM IS ABUZZ WITH FREQUENT CHATTER AND THEN ALMOST HESITANTLY PETER APPROACHES HIS DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY.

DEBRA, COULD I SPEAK TO YOU ALONE FOR A MINUTE?

I-I GUESS SO PETER BUT I CAN'T STAY AWAY FROM THE PHONES FOR LONG!

DEB THERE WAS A SERIOUS MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO OF US LAST TERM, AND I'D HATE FOR IT TO INTERFERE WITH OUR FRIENDSHIP.

COULD WE TALK ABOUT IT OVER DINNER? SAY, AT BENIHANA'S... AT 7:30... MY TREAT?

I THINK I'D LOVE THAT PETER. I'VE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU FOR SOME TIME BUT I DIDN'T KNOW HOW.

SEVEN-THIRTY SOUNDS FINE.

MINUTES LATER, THE YOUNG GRAD STUDENT TAKES TO THE MANHATTAN SKIES IN SOMEWHAT MORE COLORFUL GARB...

WHA-HOO! IT'S GREAT TO BE ALIVE! I HAVE A DATE FOR DINNER, MONEY IN MY POCKET.

--AND AN AFTERNOON WITHOUT CLASSES! I'M FREE TO LEAP AND GAMBOL TO MY HEART'S CONTENT..

..OR AT LEAST UNTIL MY WEB SHOOTERS RUN OUT OF FLUID! FACE IT, PARKER--THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY!

ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN, BECAUSE IT CAN'T POSSIBLY LAST!

AND, AS THE WEB-SPANNING WONDER SPINGS RECOGNIZED...



—IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, THE RINGER FIGHTS HIS WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS.

NO... NOT POSSIBLE...

ANY-THING IS POSSIBLE, RINGER!

HUH?! WHAT? HOW? WHERE?

SO MANY QUESTIONS! PERHAPS I'LL ANSWER A FEW, EH?

IF YOU'RE WONDERING HOW I KNEW YOUR NAME, IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN MUTTERING IT FOR THE LAST FIVE MINUTES. YOUR EGO IS ALMOST THE EQUAL OF MINE, IT WOULD SEEM.

AS TO WHERE YOU ARE... YOU'RE IN MY LAB, WHERE I'M ABOUT TO PREPARE YOU TO FIGHT SPIDER-MAN... FOR ME!

WHAT?! ME? OH, NO... NO WAY, MISTER!

A PRISON DOCTOR HAD TO REBUILD HALF OF MY TEETH AFTER THE LAST TIME I TANGLED WITH A SUPER HERO! \* I'M NOT ABOUT TO FIGHT SPIDER-MAN!

\*SEE DEFENDERS #51 -- 7.

I'M NOT GIVING YOU A CHOICE IN THE MATTER, RINGER. IF YOU'LL CHECK YOUR MID-SECTION, YOU'LL NOTICE THAT YOU'RE WEARING AN EXTRA RING OF MY OWN DESIGN!

IT'S COMPOSED OF A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE, WHICH I WILL GLADLY DETONATE... UNLESS YOU AGREE TO DO AS I SAY!

NO! Y-YOU'RE BLUFFING!

AM I? THEN WHY AM I STANDING IN THE SAFETY OF THIS PROTECTIVE BOOTH? ASK YOURSELF THAT!

AND THEN, ASK YOURSELF IF YOU CAN AFFORD TO TAKE THE CHANCE!

I GUESS I CAN'T.

GOOD. I KNEW WE COULD COME TO TERMS. NOW, LISTEN CAREFULLY...

SOMETIME LATER, IN THE CHELSEA APARTMENT OF PETER PARKER...

WHAT A GREAT DAY! I JUST CAN'T GET OVER IT!

I HAVEN'T FELT THIS HAPPY SINCE MY UNDERGRAD DAYS!

I GUESS THAT, JUST BY THE LAW OF AVERAGES, THINGS HAD TO TURN OUT RIGHT FOR ME EVENTUALLY!

BUT I CAN'T HELP WONDERING WHAT'S ABOUT TO GO WRONG...



AW, I SHOULDN'T BE SO PESSIMISTIC WHEN I'M FEELING SO GOOD. I'M PRACTICALLY READY TO GO AND I WANT TO MAKE SURE I GET TO BENIHANA'S NICE AND EARLY TO MEET DEB...

IF I CAN HELP IT, I'M NEVER GOING TO STAND THAT LADY UP AGAIN! SO, AS SOON AS I CAREFULLY FOLD UP MY BEST PERMA-PREST OUDS, AND WEAVE A WEB-PACK AROUND 'EM—

-- I'LL BE ON MY WAY, V.I.A. THE OLD WEB-LINE EXPRESS!

AH YAS! AND NOW WITHOUT FURTHER ADIEU...

...EXIT, STAGE UP!

PUSHING ASIDE THE BATHROOM SKYLIGHT, THE COLORFULLY CLAD FIGURE LEAVES HIS WESTSIDE APARTMENT--

-- AND ONCE AGAIN, HEADS UPTOWN IN HIS OWN INIMITABLE MANNER!

♪ KEEP YOUR SUNNY SIDE UP... UP... ♪

THWIP

MEANWHILE, SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY, A DOLEFUL RINGER KEEPS A RELUCTANT ROOFTOP VIGIL...

THIS MAKES NO SENSE! AS STRONG AS THAT GUY IS, WHY DOESN'T HE FIGHT SPIDER-MAN HIMSELF?

MEEP  
MEEP  
MEEP

NO, HE HAS TO STICK ME ON TOP OF SOME BUILDING WITH A PINT-SIZED RADAR UNIT!

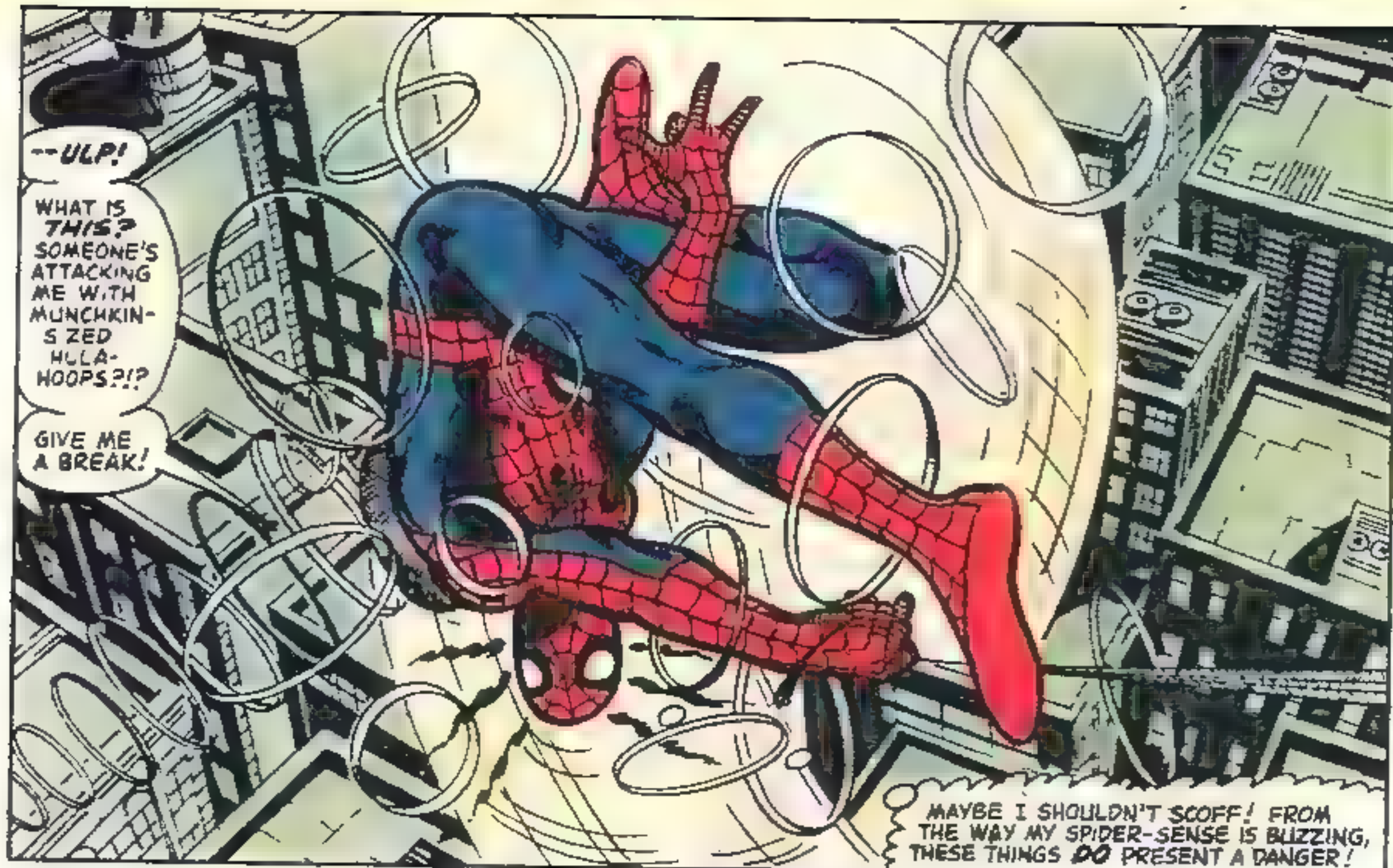
STUPID! HOW DOES HE EVEN KNOW THAT SPIDER-MAN WILL COME THIS WAY?

WHAT? IT'S HIM! BUT HOW--?

I'LL HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER! IF I DON'T GO AFTER SPIDER-MAN NOW, MY "BOSS" IS LIABLE TO BLOW ME UP!

...STAND UP ON YOUR LEGS. BE LIKE TWO FRIED EGGS, ♪ KEEP YOUR SUNNY SIDE-- ♪



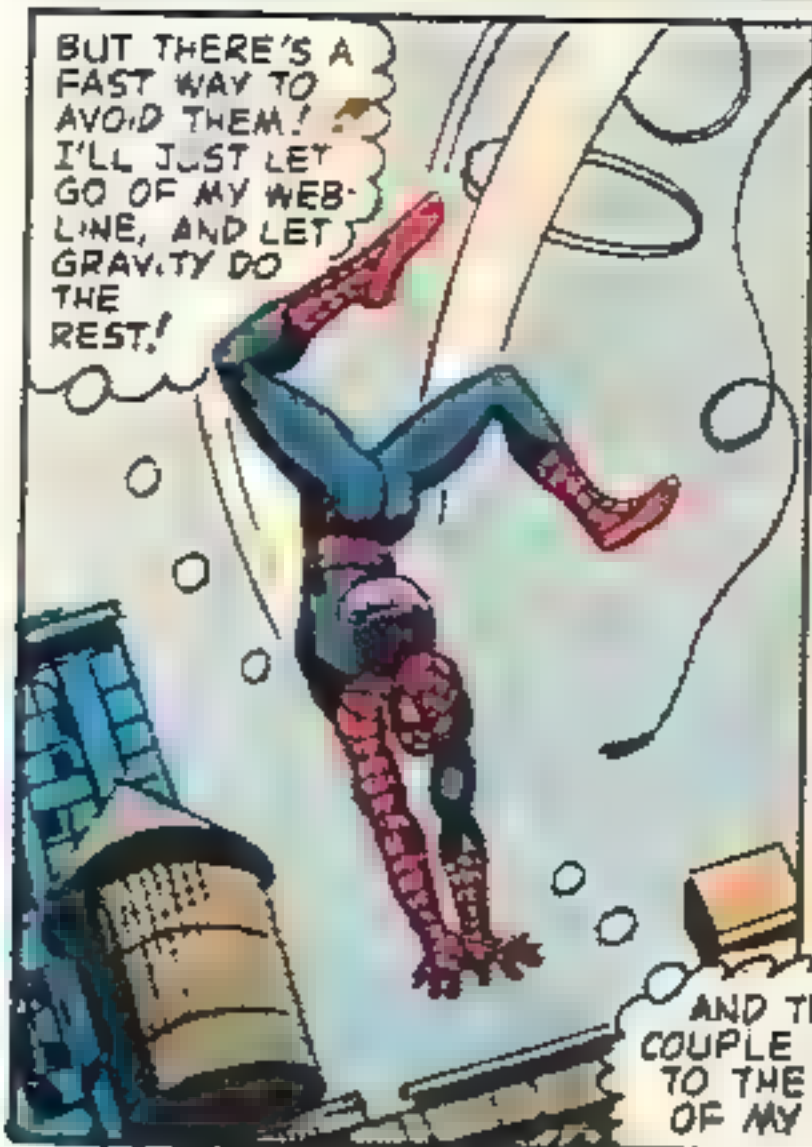


--ULP!

WHAT IS THIS?  
SOMEONE'S  
ATTACKING  
ME WITH  
MUNCHKIN-  
SIZED  
HULA-  
HOOPS?!

GIVE ME  
A BREAK!

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T SCOFF! FROM  
THE WAY MY SPIDER-SENSE IS BUZZING,  
THESE THINGS **DO** PRESENT A DANGER!



BUT THERE'S A  
FAST WAY TO  
AVOID THEM!  
I'LL JUST LET  
GO OF MY WEB-  
LINE, AND LET  
GRAVITY DO  
THE  
REST!



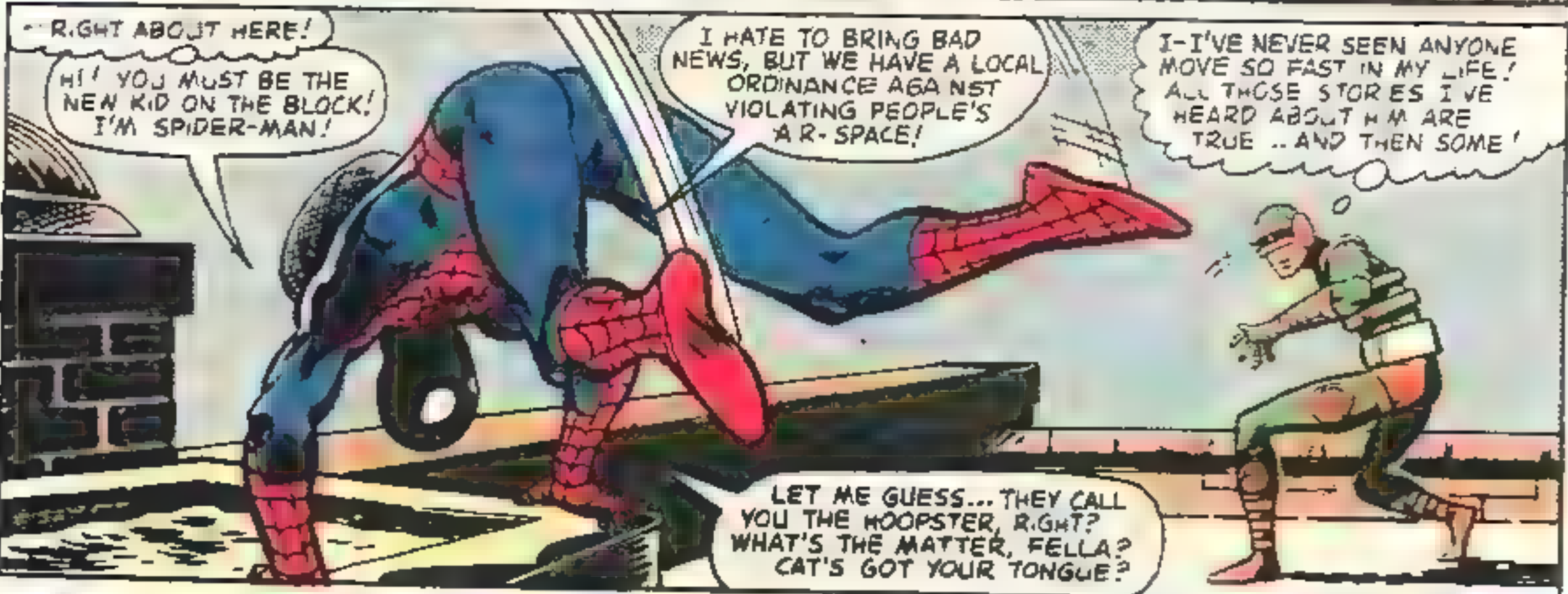
THUMP

AND THEN, WITH A  
COUPLE OF SHARP TAPS  
TO THE PALM-BUTTON  
OF MY WEB-SHOOTER--



-- I'LL BE OFF TO FIND MY  
MYSTERY ASSAILANT!

JUDGING FROM THE ANGLE  
THAT THOSE HOOPS TOOK,  
I SHOULD FIND HIM--



--RIGHT ABOUT HERE!

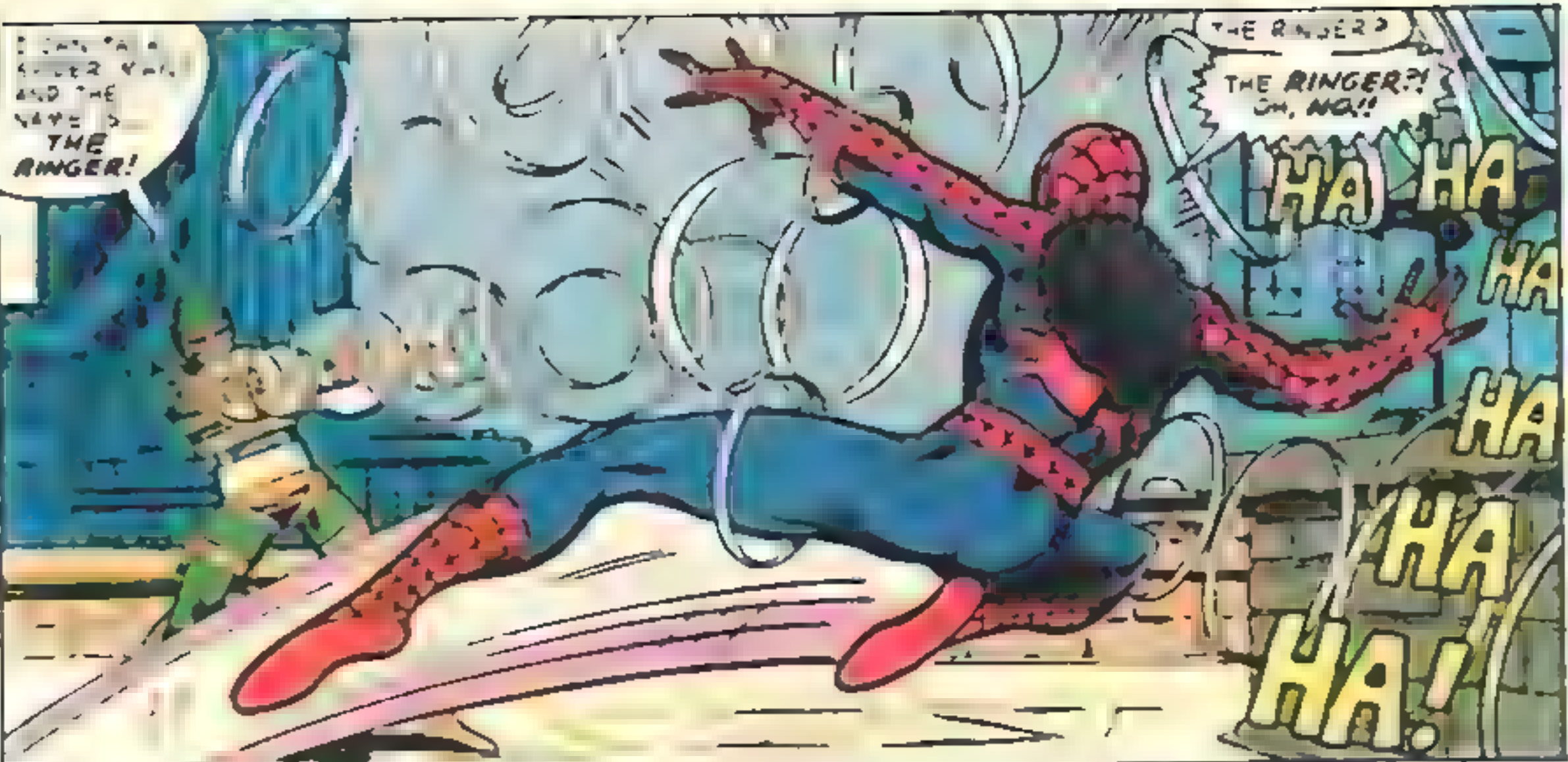
HI! YOU MUST BE THE  
NEW KID ON THE BLOCK!  
I'M SPIDER-MAN!

I HATE TO BRING BAD  
NEWS, BUT WE HAVE A LOCAL  
ORDINANCE AGAINST  
VIOLATING PEOPLE'S  
A R-SPACE!

I-I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE  
MOVE SO FAST IN MY LIFE!  
ALL THOSE STORIES I'VE  
HEARD ABOUT HIM ARE  
TRUE... AND THEN SOME!

LET ME GUESS... THEY CALL  
YOU THE HOOPSTER, RIGHT?  
WHAT'S THE MATTER, FELLA?  
CAT'S GOT YOUR TONGUE?

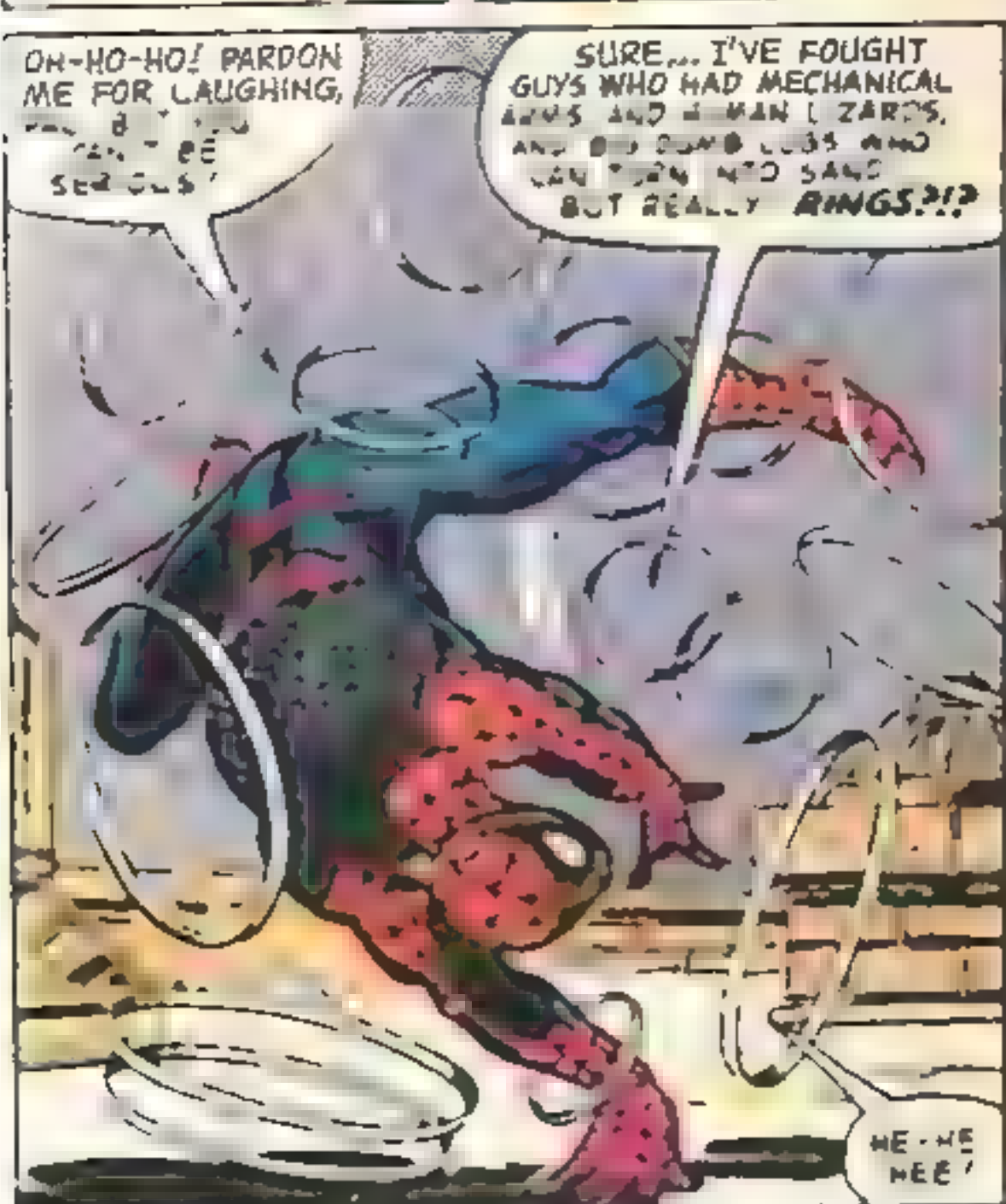




THAT PA  
KILLER VAIL  
AND THE  
NAYE IS  
THE  
RINGER!

THE RINGER?  
THE RINGER?  
OH, NO!!

HA HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA  
HA!



OH-HO-HO! PARDON  
ME FOR LAUGHING,  
BUT YOU  
CAN'T BE  
SERIOUS!

SURE... I'VE FOUGHT  
GUYS WHO HAD MECHANICAL  
ARMS AND HUMAN LIZARDS,  
AND BIG DUMB GUYS WHO  
CAN TURN INTO SAND  
BUT REALLY RINGS?!!

HE-HE  
HEE!



IT'S NOT  
THAT  
FUNNY!

I KNOW  
YOU HAVE  
A REP AS  
BIG AS  
MANHATTAN,  
BUT I'M NO  
PUSH-OVER!

SO YOU  
SAY

YEAH! AS A  
MATTER OF  
FACT I  
DO SAY

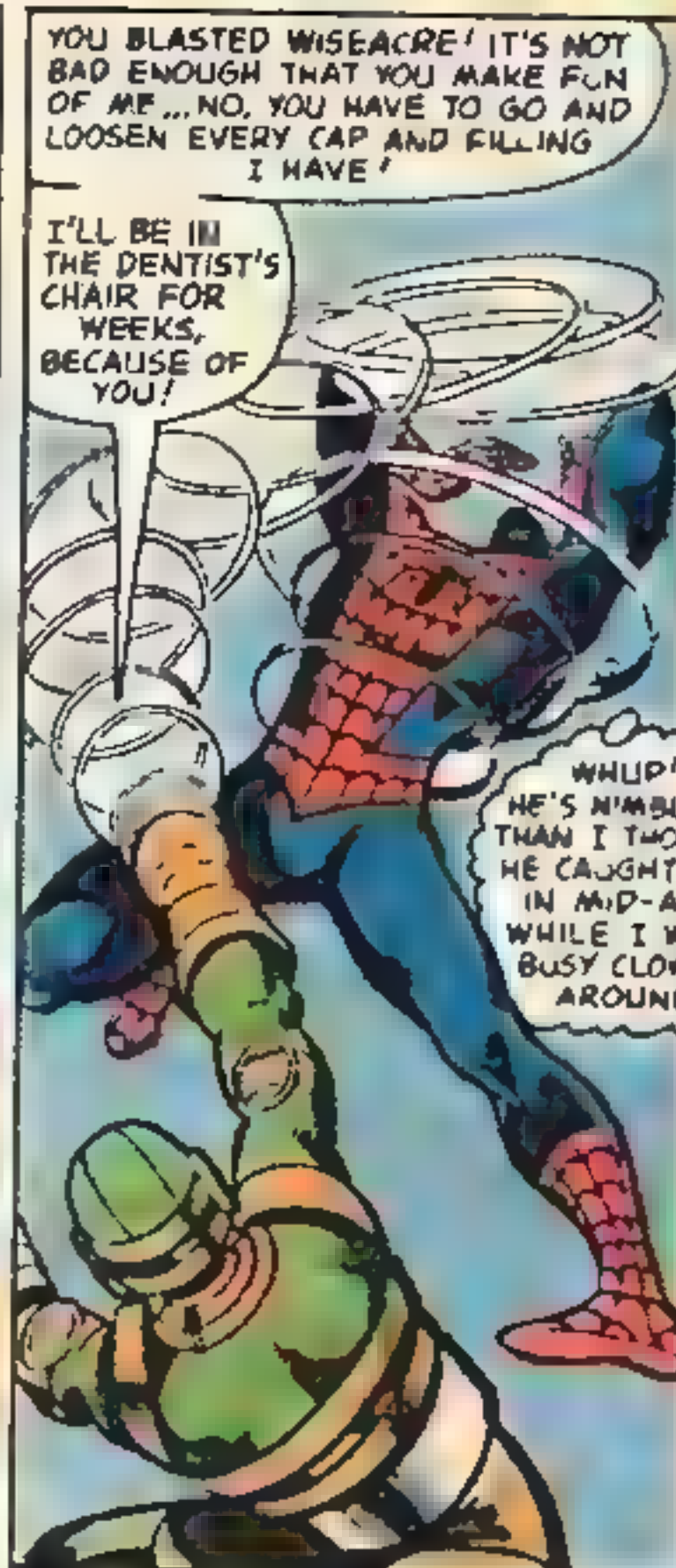
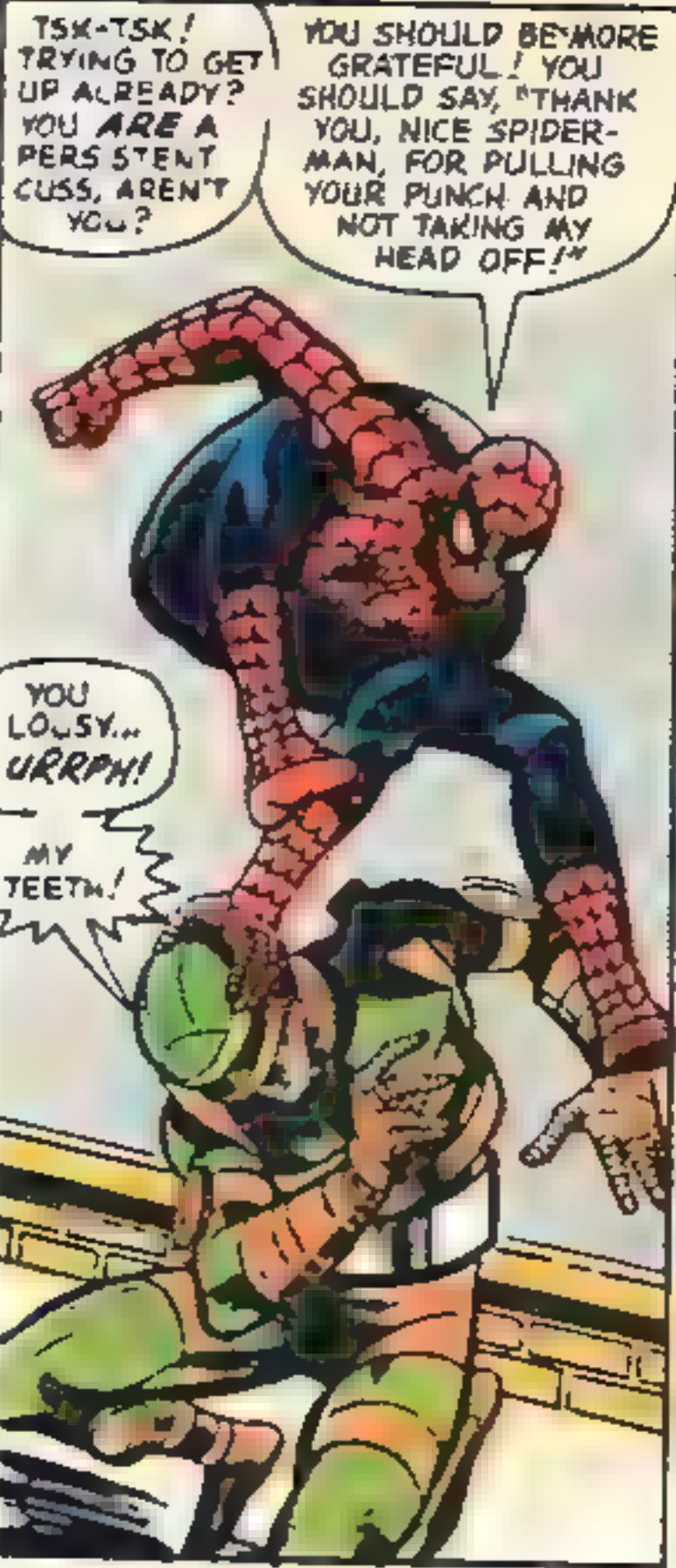
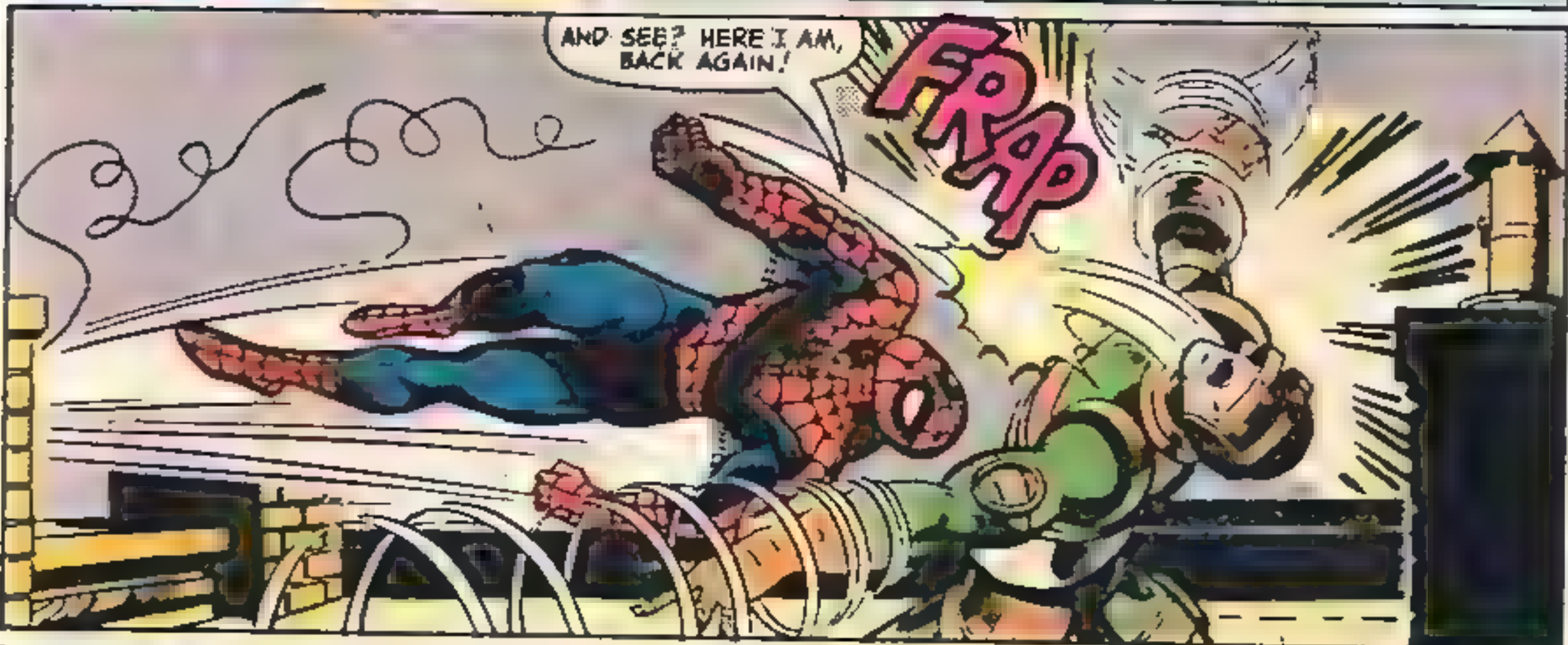
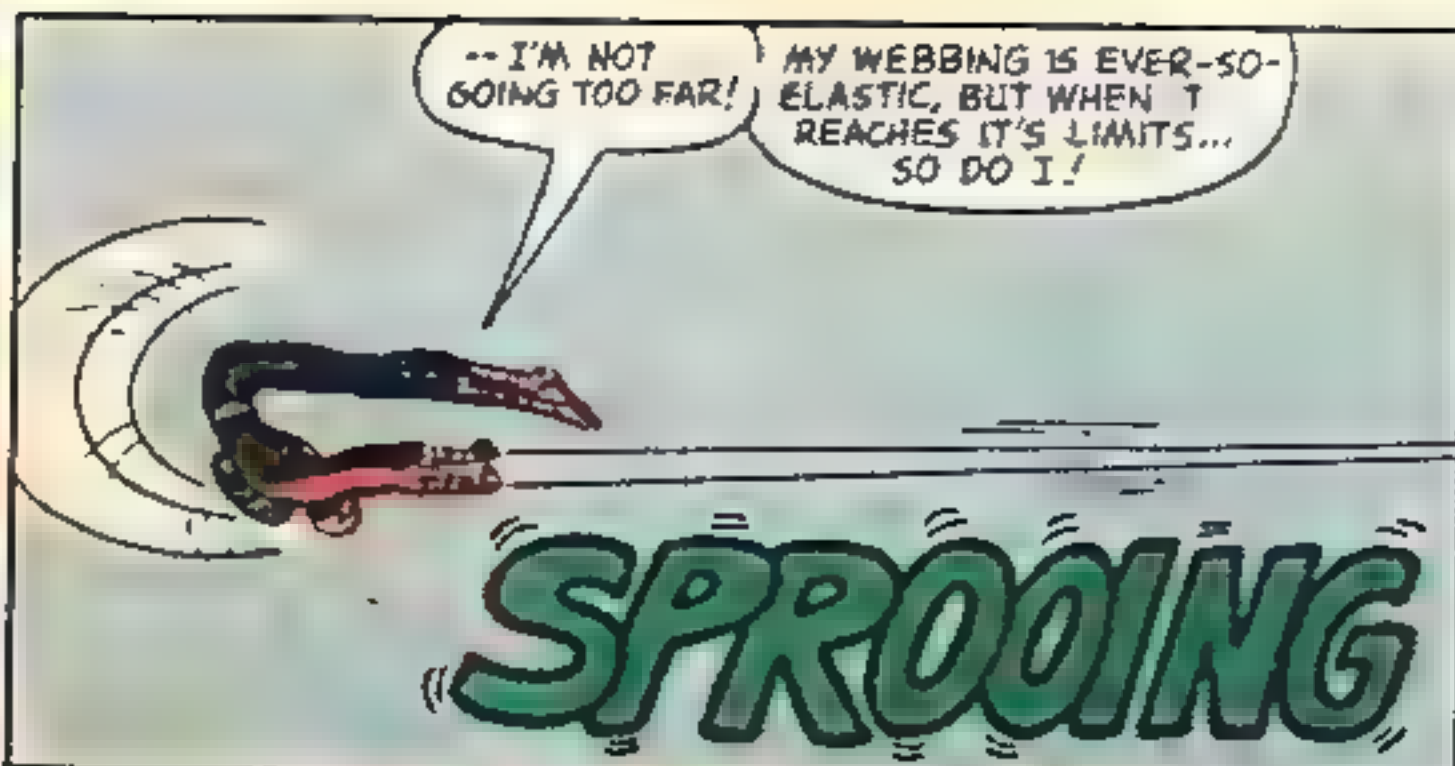
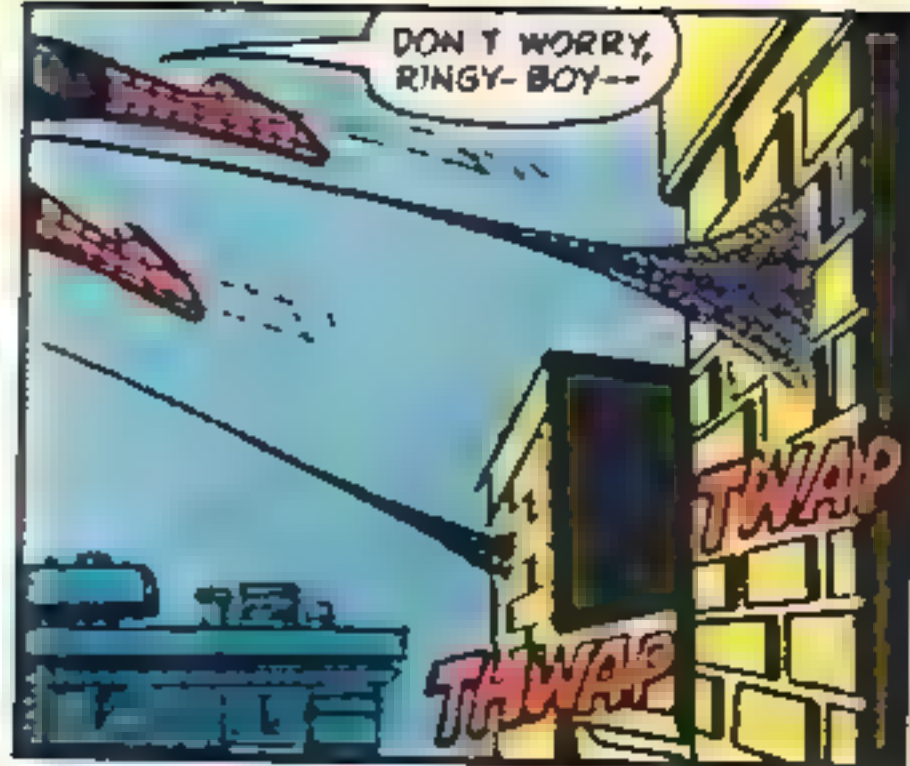


OH, I'VE NEVER  
IN MY LIFE  
PUT MYSELF TO  
BED WITHOUT  
ANY SUPPER!

NO! NO, DON'T GO!  
COME BACK... WE HAVE  
TO FIGHT!

THIS JERK IS REALLY  
ASKING FOR IT!







YOU JUST FORGOT ONE THING - YOUR RING FUFFZE - I CAN'T HURT ME IF I BREAK OUT OF IT

HE WAS RIGHT ABOUT THAT THING SLOWING ME DOWN, THOUGH THAT PUNCH WAS PATHETIC!

SLEEP

I'D BETTER WARM UP FAST!

AFTER ALL, IT WOULDN'T DO FOR ME TO GET CARELESS AND ACTUALLY BE BEATEN BY THIS BUFFOON! I'D NEVER LIVE IT DOWN!

ATTABOY, RINGY! YOU KEEP THOSE RINGS A'COMING NOW!

ALLEZ-OOP!

SAY, I HAVEN'T HAD THIS MUCH FUN SINCE THE LAST TIME I WENT TO THE CIRCUS...

AND THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO

BUT THEN

HOLY SMOKES, LOOK AT THE TIME! IF I DON'T HUSTLE, I'LL BE LATE FOR MY DATE WITH DEBBIE!

I'LL JUST CUT THIS SHORT!

SORRY TO BATTLE WITH A BUSY MAN, BUT MY TIME IS VERY IMPORTANT!

POW!

LOOK, FELLA-- I DIDN'T CATCH YOU COMMITTING A CRIME, AND I DON'T KNOW YOU FROM ADAM, WHICH MEANS THAT YOU'RE NOT AFTER ME TO SETTLE A SCORE--

--SO WHY ARE YOU FIGHTING ME?

I... I CAN'T TELL YOU! I'LL DIE IF I DO!

ALL RIGHT, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME THE TRUTH, HAVE YOUR WAY!

BUT DON'T EXPECT ME TO STAND AROUND AND WATCH YOU! I HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO!

YOU CAN'T LEAVE NOW

OH, NO? WATCH ME!



WHAT A WEIRD GUY! I GOT THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO FIGHT ME!

--BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, HE WAS ADAMANT ABOUT TAKING HIS LUMPS FROM ME! STRANGE!

IT TAKES ALL KINDS, I GUESS. I'LL WORRY ABOUT HIM LATER! RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO CROSS TWENTY BLOCKS IN UNDER THREE MINUTES.

THREE MINUTES TEN SECONDS, TWENTY BLOCKS, AND ONE QUICK-CHANGE LATER...

HERE I AM, DEB! HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING LONG?

OH, PETER! NO, I JUST GOT HERE! I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU SO SOON!

HEY, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO GET USED TO THE NEW, PUNCTUAL PARKER!

LET'S EAT!

SHORTLY, OVER A MEAL OF SHRIMP TERIYAKI...

...SO YOU SEE, DEB, HALF THE TIME, I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT I WAS STANDING YOU UP. LUNK-HEAD THAT I AM!

IT'S MOSTLY MY FAULT, PETER. I WAS SEEING US AS MORE THAN JUST FRIENDS.

YES, WELL... I'M AFRAID I'M A LITTLE GUN SHY WHEN IT COMES TO RELATIONSHIPS.

YOU'RE REALLY?

AND SO, SOME TIME LATER.

I THINK I'D LIKE TO CONTINUE THIS CONVERSATION, PETER.

ME, TOO, DEBRA. BUT I HAVE THIS... AN ERRAND I OUGHT TO HANDLE.

TELL YOU WHAT... IT SHOULDN'T TAKE TOO LONG. WHY DON'T YOU MEET ME AT MY PLACE IN A HALF-HOUR?

ARE YOU SURE THAT WILL GIVE YOU ENOUGH TIME?

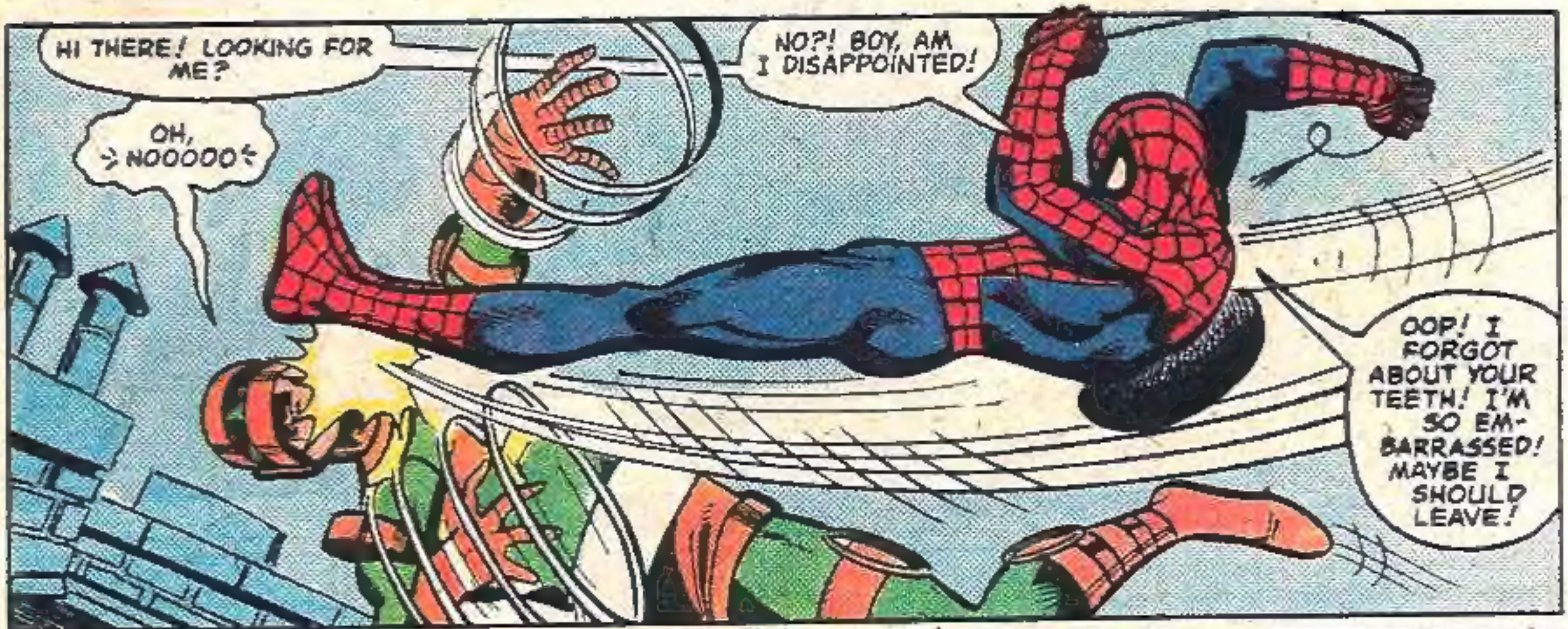
MORE THAN ENOUGH!

SOON, ON A MIDDOWN RACETED

"H-H-H-H-H-H-H I GOTTA FIND HIM! THUNN! I JUST GOTTA KNOW MY 'BOS'S WATCHING ME SINCE AND IF I DON'T GET SPIDER MAN, HE'LL BLOW ME TO KINGDOM COME!"

BUT HOW DO I FIND HIM? I'VE BEEN RUNNING ACROSS THESE BLASTED ROOFTOPS FOR AN HOUR AND...







OKAY, BUT JUST REMEMBER--

-- YOU ASKED FOR IT!

WHUNG

WHAT?! YOU STILL WANT TO FIGHT? WELL, YOU GET POINTS FOR PERSEVERANCE BUT YOU'LL NEVER WIN "MISS CONGENIALITY"!

I BEG TO DIFFER, CHUCKLES! YOU'RE NOTHING WITHOUT YOUR RING-MAKING GIZMOS! IN FACT, YOU'RE NOT MUCH WITH THEM-- BUT THAT'S A MOOT POINT!

I'LL GET YOU YET!

KRAAK

KRUNK

HUNH?

BLAST YOU! YOU'VE AS GOOD AS KILLED ME! I'VE FAILED TO STOP YOU-- AND THAT MEANS WE'LL DESTROY ME!

"HE"? HE WHO?

I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, BUT HE PUT THIS EXPLOSIVE RING AROUND MY MIDDLE!

IS HE SERIOUS? IF SOMEONE'S BEEN USING HIM, IT WOULD EXPLAIN A LOT! BUT I'M NOT GETTING ANY SPIDER-SENSE WARNING ABOUT THAT WAIST-RING, SO HOW COULD IT BE DANGEROUS?

ELSEWHERE, A FURTIVE FIGURE CHECKS HIS SPECIAL MONITORS...

AND WITH A NASTY CHUCKLE, HE ACTIVATES THE DETONATOR!





GEEZ.



HUH? I... I DIDN'T BLOW UP!

NO, BUT YOUR BELT CERTAINLY DID! LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT!



HMM...NOTHING HERE BUT THE REMAINS OF SOME FANCY MICRO-CIRCUITS. THERE WAS A SMALL EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN IT, BUT JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE THE THING SELF-DESTRUCT.

I'D SAY THAT YOU'VE BEEN HAD, RINGER!



IT ISN'T FAIR! IT JUST ISN'T FAIR!

WILL YOU DUMMY UP? I'VE HAD A GOOD DAY, AND I DON'T WANT IT SPOILED BY LISTENING TO A "LIFE ISN'T FAIR" RAP!

BESIDES, I JUST ATE!



AND, AT A MIDTOWN PRECHT HOUSE...

HONEST, SERGEANT, I'M INNOCENT! I WAS JUST STANDIN' THERE!

YEAH, YEAH! I'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE!

TAP TAP

EH? NOW WHO IN BLAZES IS RAPPIN' AT THE WINDOW?



??!?!?

LOCK ME UP! I'LL CONFESS TO EVERYTHING!

I'M IN VIOLATION OF MY PAROLE!

I'M GUILTY OF ATTEMPTED ASSAULT! AND THERE'S MORE! JUST LOCK ME UP...PLEASE!

A-AND COULD YOU CALL A DENTIST? A GOOD ONE?



AH, THE PERFECT  
 END TO A  
 PERFECT DAY!  
 WHAT AM I  
 THINKING? DAY  
 IS DONE, BUT THE  
 NIGHT IS JUST  
 BEGINNING!  
 THE SWEETEST YOUNG LADY  
 IN THE YEW-NITED STATES  
 WILL BE KNOCKING ON MY  
 DOOR IN MINUTES! METHINKS  
 I SHOULD HURRY HOME!

AND, SURE ENOUGH, JUST  
 MINUTES LATER...  
 HELLO, PETER. I  
 TAKE IT  
 THAT YOUR  
 ERRAND  
 WAS  
 SUCCESS-  
 FUL!  
 IT WENT OFF  
 WITHOUT A  
 HITCH, DEB.  
 SAY, DO  
 YOU LIKE  
 POPCORN?  
 I LOVE  
 POP-  
 CORN!  
 THEN,  
 COME ON  
 IN--

--AND WHILE I'M  
 PUTTING THE PAN  
 ON THE STOVE, YOU  
 CAN TELL ME THE  
 STORY OF YOUR  
 LIFE!  
 AND, AS  
 PETER'S  
 DAY DRAWS  
 TO A  
 CLOSE--

--ELSEWHERE, THE END OF HIS  
 HAPPINESS IS BEING CAREFULLY  
 PLOTTED!  
 EVERYTHING IS  
 PROCEEDING  
 PERFECTLY.

KLACK

I'M GLAD I WENT TO THE  
 TINKERER'S LAB THIS MORNING  
 TO GET MY OWN NEW BODY  
 ARMOR! FINDING THE RINGER  
 WAS A  
 STROKE  
 OF LUCK!  
 HE MADE THE  
 PERFECT  
 STOOGE!

KLACK

WHILE HE WAS  
 FIGHTING  
 SPIDER-MAN,  
 THE CIRCUITS  
 IN HIS  
 BELT-RING  
 WERE  
 BEAMING  
 DATA TO  
 MY COMPU-  
 TERS.  
 WITH THE  
 INFORMATION  
 I'VE GATHERED,  
 I'LL KNOW  
 EXACTLY HOW  
 TO BATTLE  
 SPIDER-  
 MAN--

KLACK

--AND BEAT HIM! THEN,  
 AT LAST, I'LL HAVE MY  
 REVENGE ON THAT BLASTED  
 WALL-CRAWLING IDIOT!  
 AND ONCE SPIDER-MAN  
 HAS BEEN DEFEATED,  
 THE WORLD WILL KNOW--  
 --THAT  
 THERE'S NO  
 STOPPING  
 THE  
 BEETLE!

NEXT  
 THE BEETLE  
 ATTACKS, AND  
 THE STARTLING  
 RETURN OF...  
**THE MYSTERIOUS MR BLANK!**